



KONARK

TEMPLE TO THE SUN

Vol 833 | ₹70





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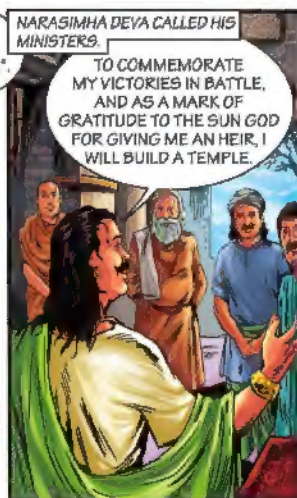
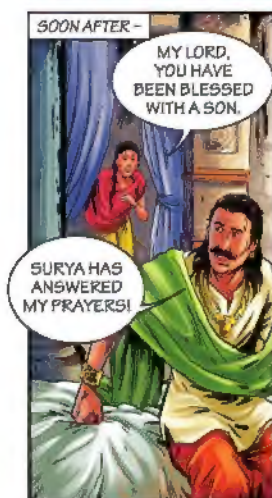
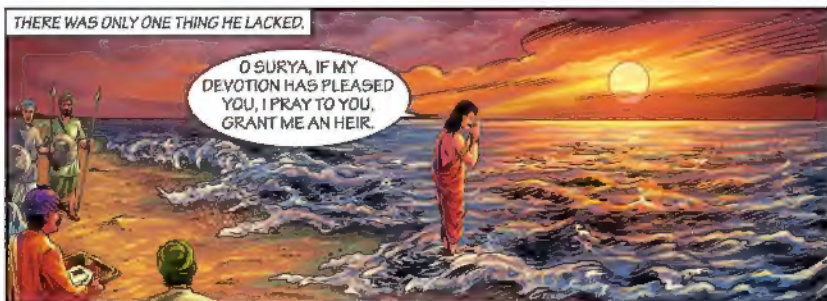
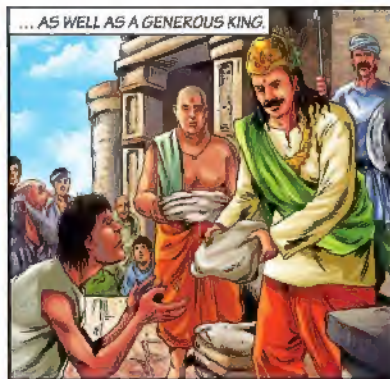
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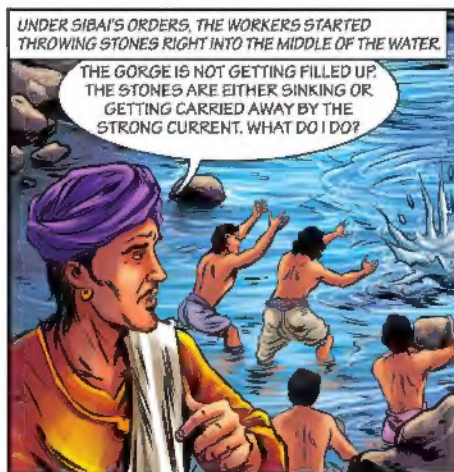
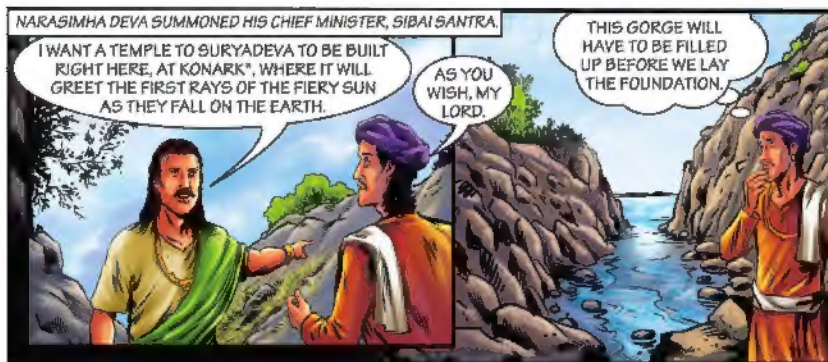
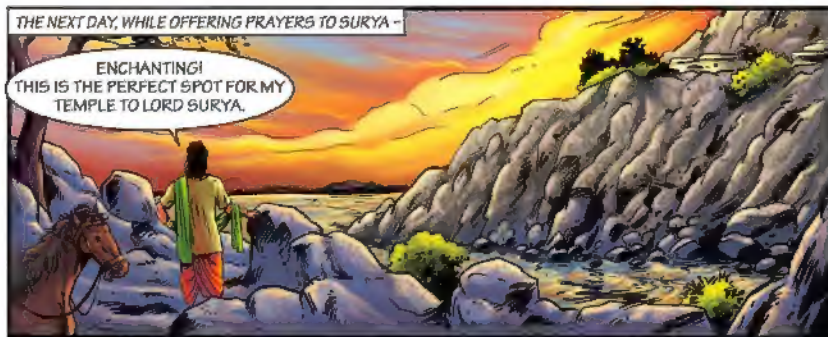
KONARK



SHROUDED IN MYTH AND MYSTERY, THE SUN TEMPLE OF KONARK IS A MAGNIFICENT TRIBUTE TO THE ALL-PERVADING POWER OF THE SUN. BUILT IN THE 13TH CENTURY BY THE GANGA KING, NARASIMHA DEVA I, THE TEMPLE HAS INNUMERABLE STORIES TO TELL - STORIES WHICH IT PRESERVES CAREFULLY IN ITS EXQUISITE CARVINGS. THE MOST IMPORTANT STORY IS, OF COURSE, ABOUT HOW THE TEMPLE CAME TO BE BUILT.



*ANOTHER NAME FOR THE SUN



* KONARK MEANS 'CORNER OF THE SUN'.



I SEEM TO HAVE WANDERED FAR. I HOPE I CAN GET SOMETHING TO EAT IN THAT COTTAGE.



AN OLD WOMAN OPENED THE DOOR.

PLEASE ... CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME FOOD? I'M ... REALLY HUNGRY ... AND TIRED.

I ONLY HAVE SOME KHIRI*.



SIBAI SANTRA WAS SO HUNGRY THAT HE PLUNGED HIS FINGERS RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE BOWL ...



HA HAI WHY, YOU'RE JUST LIKE THAT FOOLISH SIBAI SANTRA! HE'S THROWING STONES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WATER INSTEAD OF STARTING FROM THE SIDES.

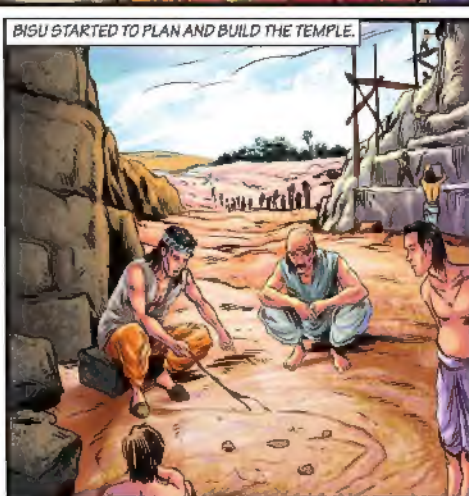
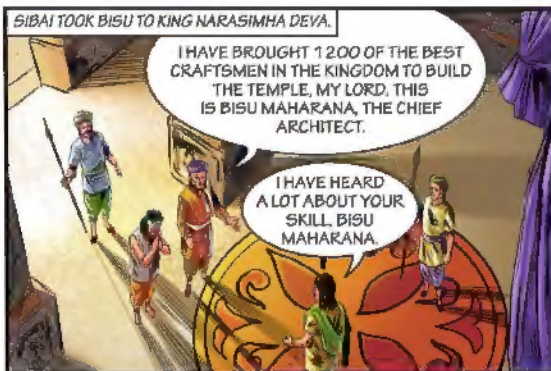


... AND PROMPTLY BURNT THEM.

OW!

* A THIN GRUEL





* CHIEF ARCHITECT

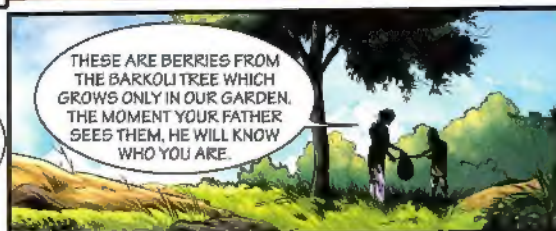
MEANWHILE, IN BISU'S HOME, HIS LITTLE SON WAS GROWING UP.



BISU HAD LEFT BEHIND A HUGE COLLECTION OF PALM LEAF MANUSCRIPTS ON ARCHITECTURE.

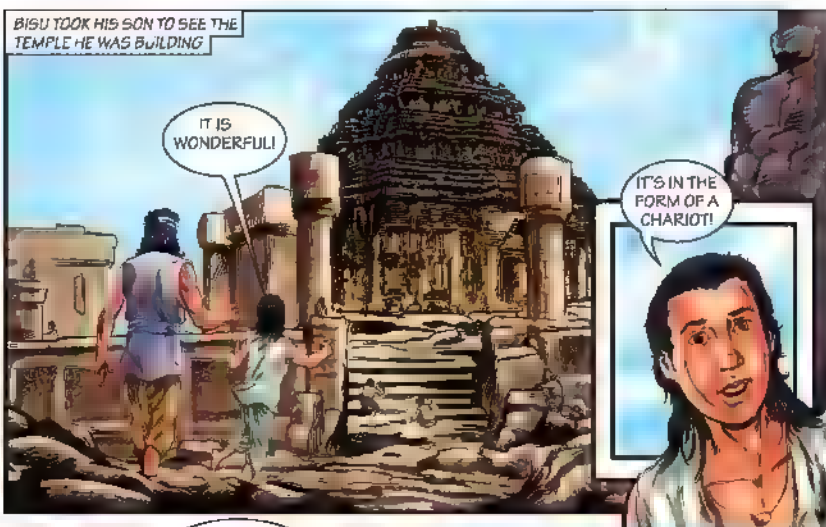


YEARS WENT BY. WHEN DHARMAPADA TURNED 12 -





BISU TOOK HIS SON TO SEE THE
TEMPLE HE WAS BUILDING



IT IS
WONDERFUL!

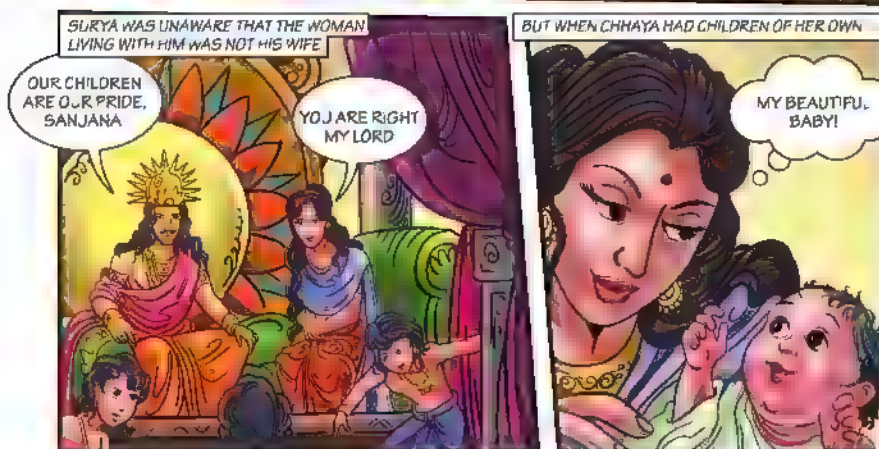
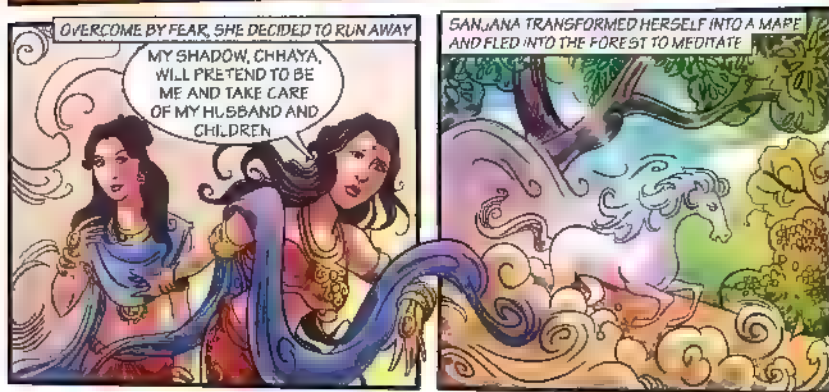
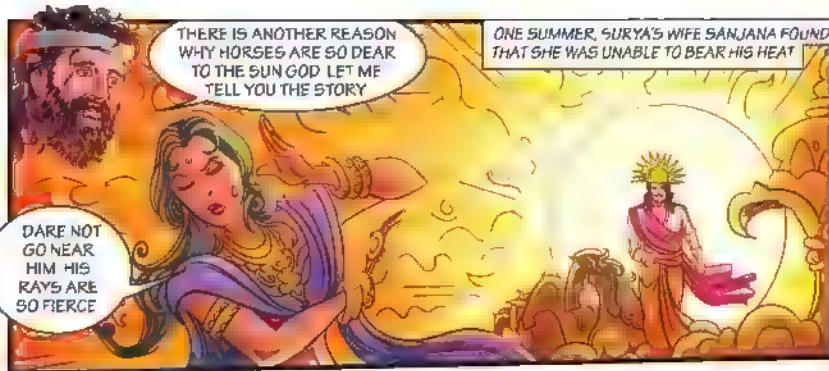
IT'S IN THE
FORM OF A
CHARIOT!

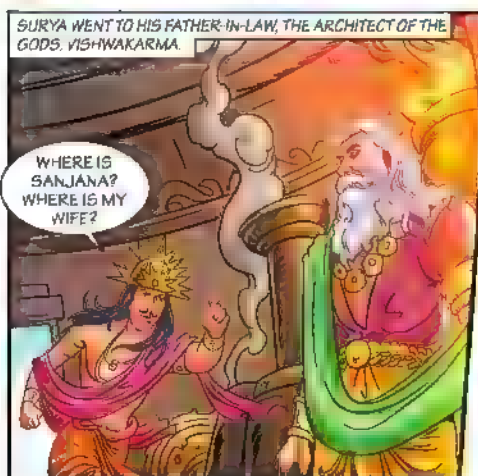
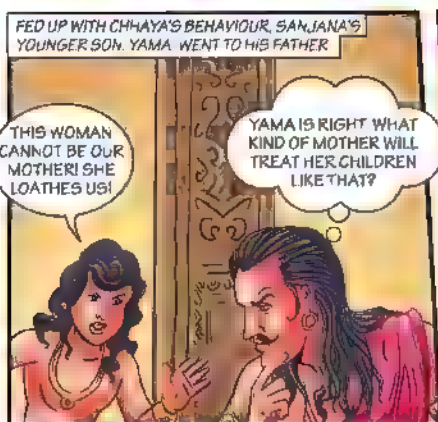
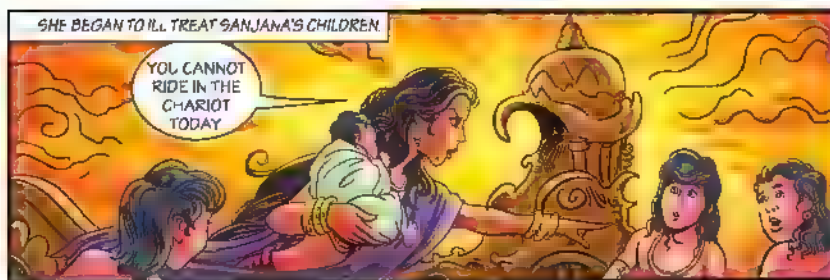


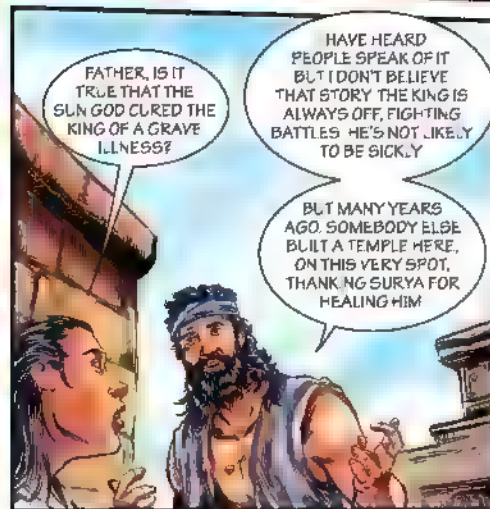
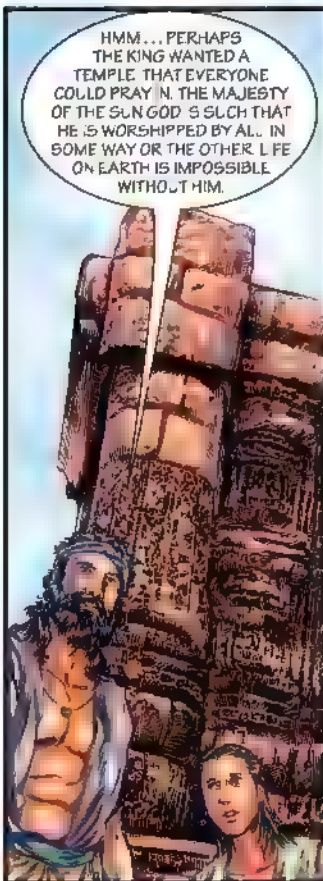
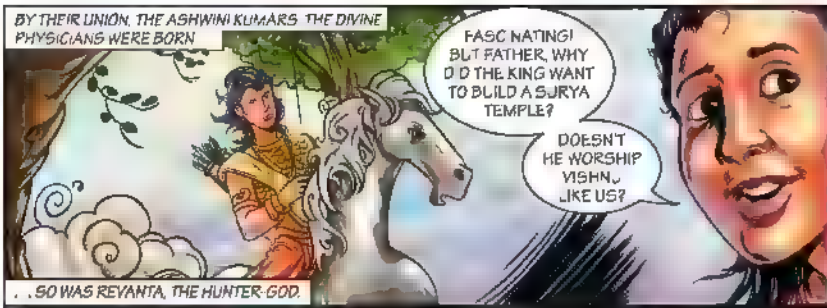
THE CHARIOT
IS SURYA'S VEHICLE,
DRAWN BY SEVEN
GOLDEN HORSES ACROSS
THE SKIES. IT IS SAID
THAT THE SEVEN
HORSES STAND FOR
THE SEVEN DAYS
OF THE WEEK.

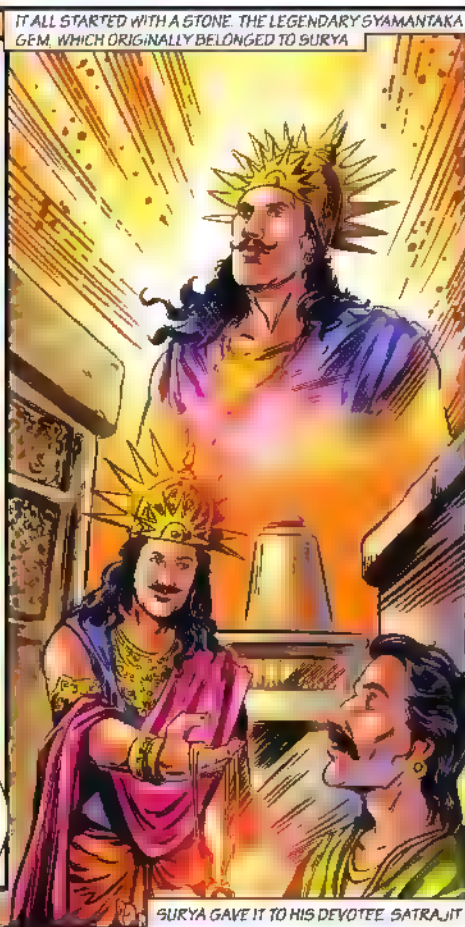


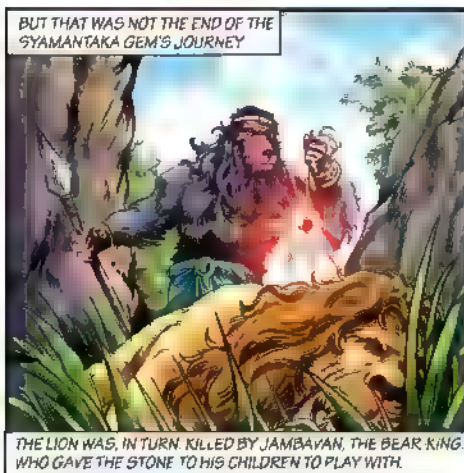
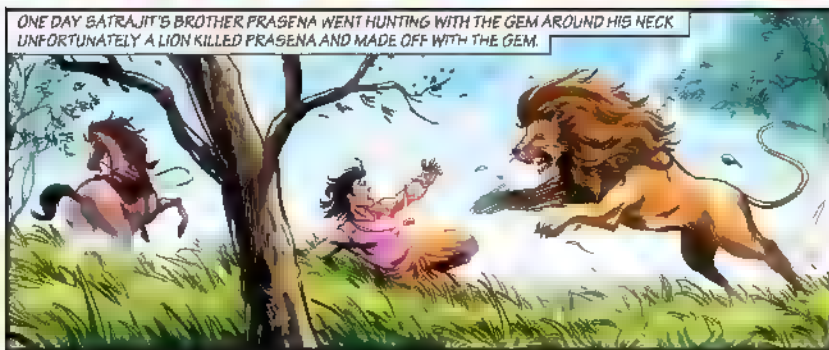
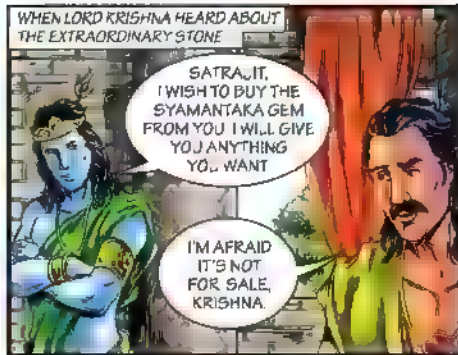
OR THE
SEVEN
COLOURS OF
THE RAINBOW





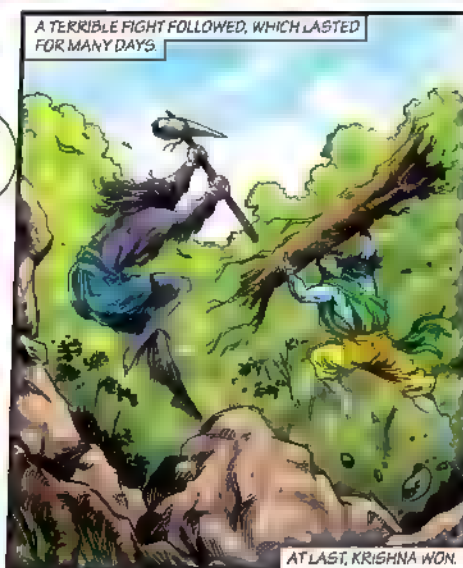


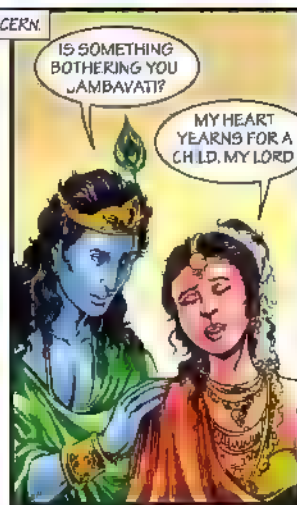
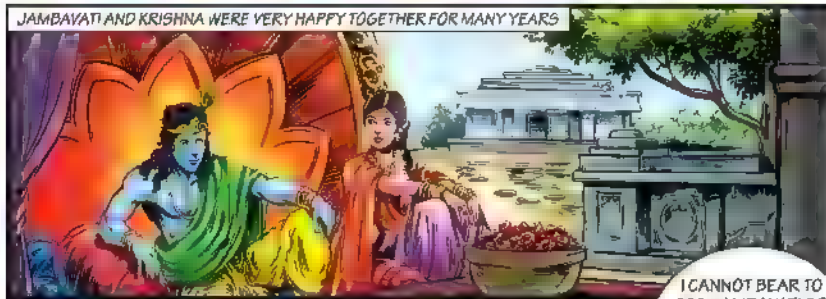




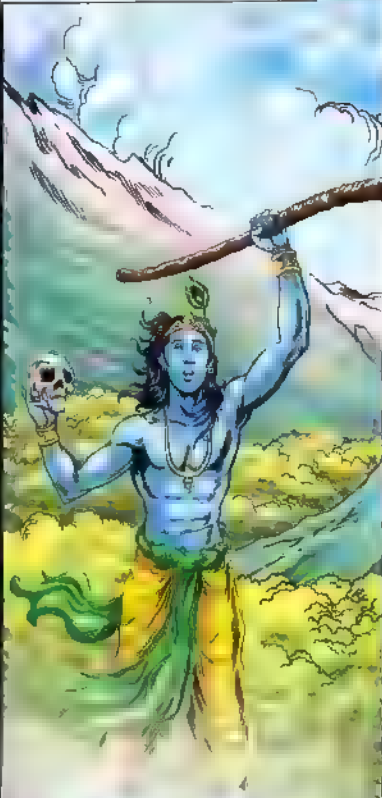
THE LION WAS, IN TURN, KILLED BY JAMBAVAN, THE BEAR KING, WHO GAVE THE STONE TO HIS CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH.







THE FIRST MONTH OF THE PENANCE WAS PERFORMED WITH KRISHNA HOLDING A STAFF AND A SKULL.



THE SECOND MONTH OF PENANCE WAS DONE STANDING ON ONE LEG AND DRINKING ONLY WATER FOR SUSTENANCE



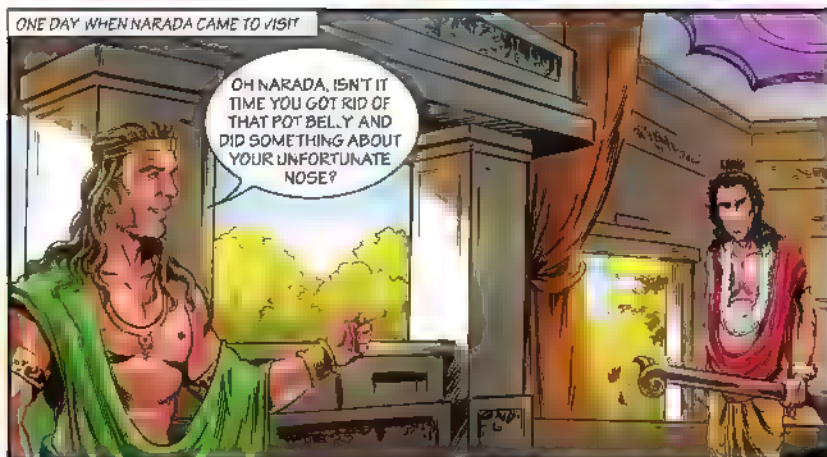
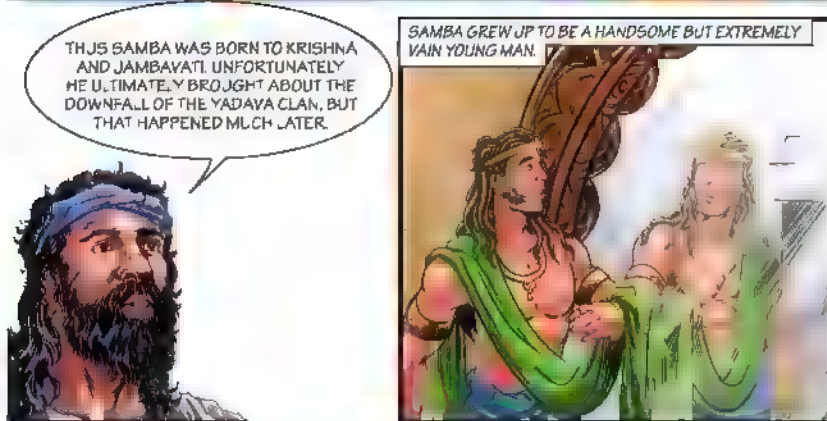
IN THE THIRD MONTH, HE STOOD ON HIS TOES AND REFRAINED FROM DRINKING EVEN WATER.

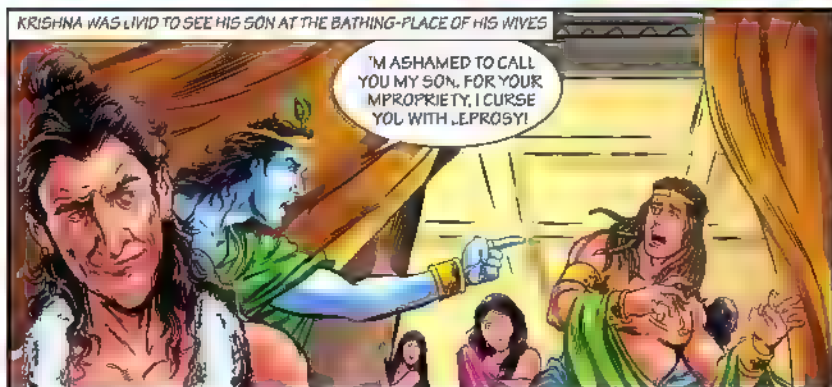
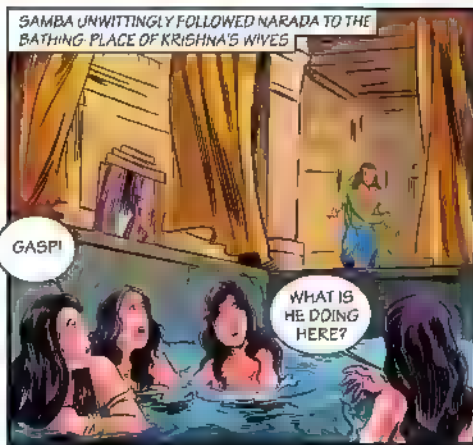
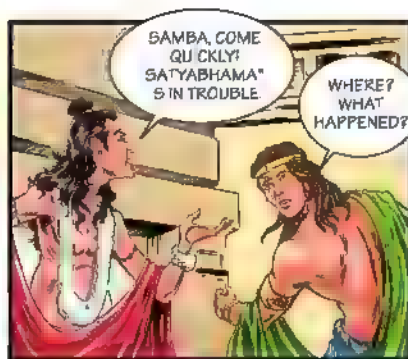
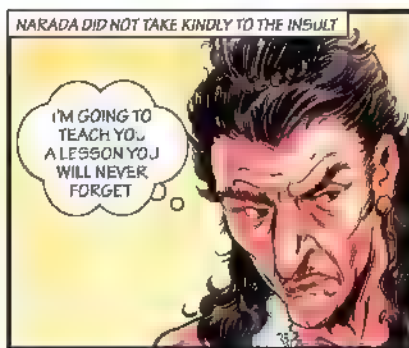


THIS CONTINUED FOR 4,8 MONTHS

FINALLY SHIVA APPEARED.



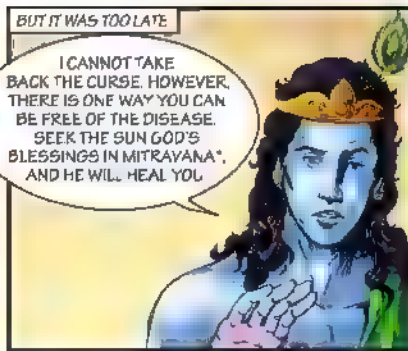




* ONE OF KRISHNA'S WIVES

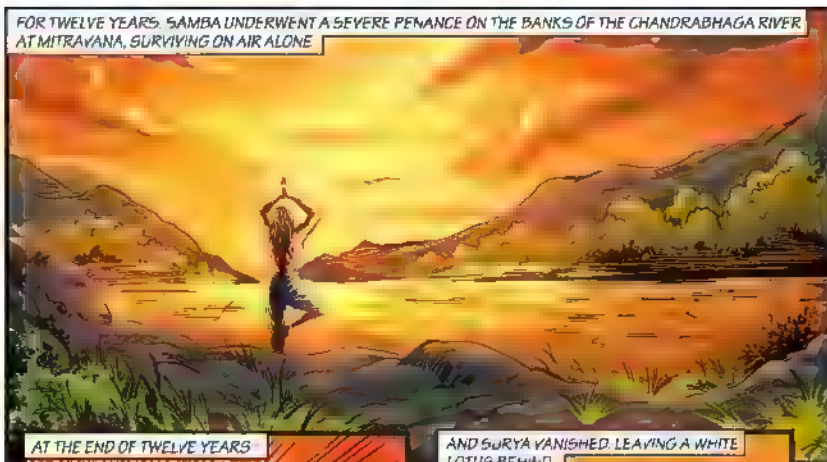


NO! FATHER!
PLEASE BELIEVE
ME I HAVE BEEN
TRICKED!

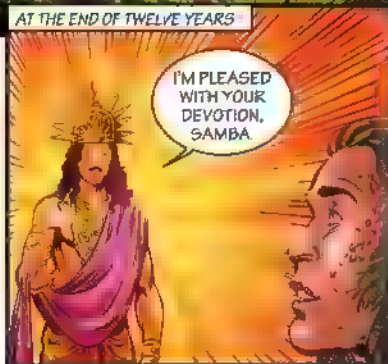


BUT IT WAS TOO LATE

I CANNOT TAKE
BACK THE CURSE. HOWEVER,
THERE IS ONE WAY YOU CAN
BE FREE OF THE DISEASE.
SEEK THE SUN GOD'S
BLESSINGS IN MITRAYANA*,
AND HE WILL HEAL YOU

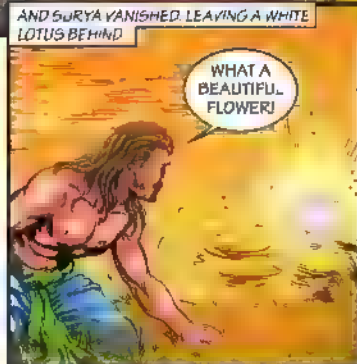


FOR TWELVE YEARS, SAMBA UNDERWENT A SEVERE PENANCE ON THE BANKS OF THE CHANDRABHAGA RIVER,
AT MITRAYANA, SURVIVING ON AIR ALONE



AT THE END OF TWELVE YEARS

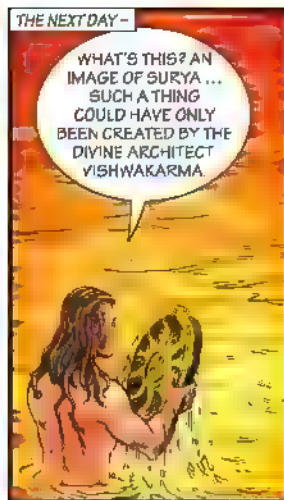
I'M PLEASED
WITH YOUR
DEVOTION,
SAMBA

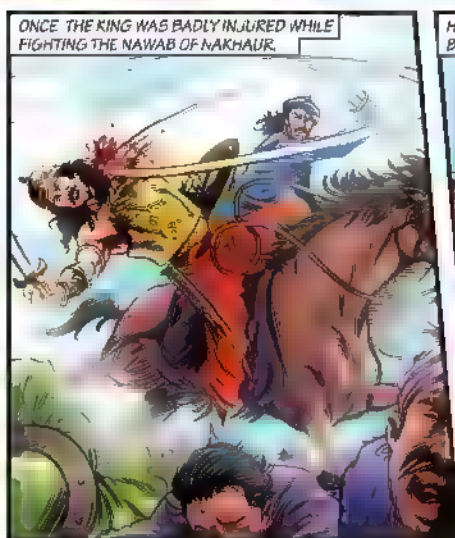


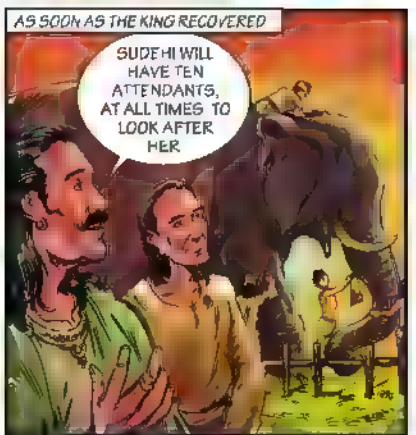
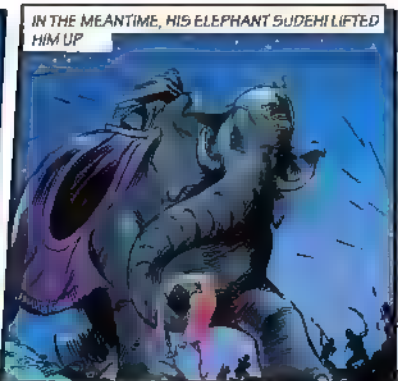
AND SURYA VANISHED, LEAVING A WHITE
LOTUS BEHIND

WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL
FLOWER!

* A PLACE AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE CHANDRABHAGA RIVER AND THE SEA IN KONARK

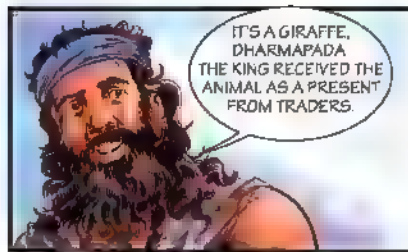








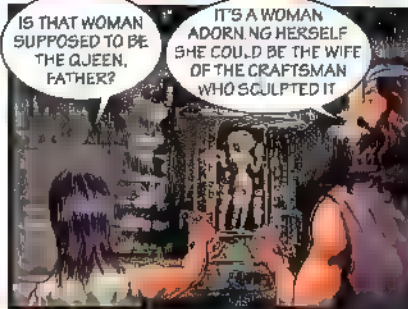
BUT WHAT IS
THIS ANIMAL
FATHER?



IT'S A GIRAFFE,
DHARMAPADA.
THE KING RECEIVED THE
ANIMAL AS A PRESENT
FROM TRADERS.

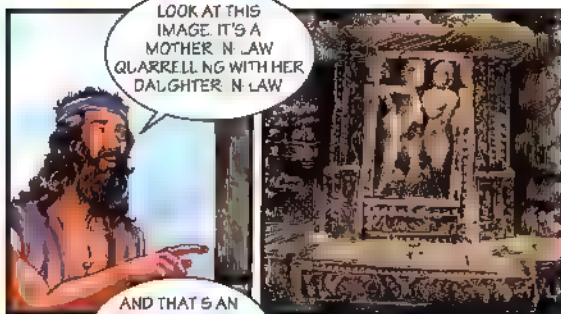


IT HAS SUCH A LONG
NECK I'VE NEVER
SEEN ANYTHING LIKE
IT BEFORE



IS THAT WOMAN
SUPPOSED TO BE
THE QUEEN,
FATHER?

IT'S A WOMAN
ADORNING HERSELF
SHE COULD BE THE WIFE
OF THE CRAFTSMAN
WHO SCULPTED IT



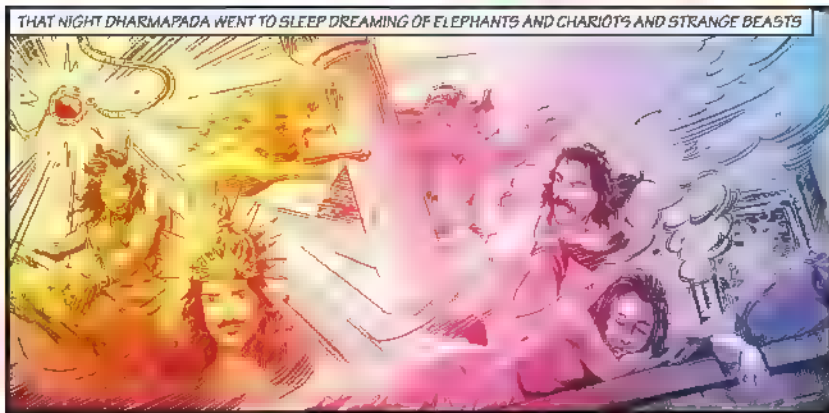
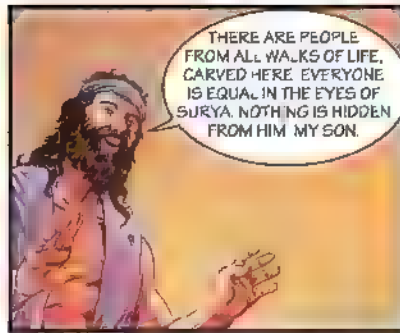
LOOK AT THIS
IMAGE IT'S A
MOTHER-IN-LAW
QUARRELLING WITH HER
DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

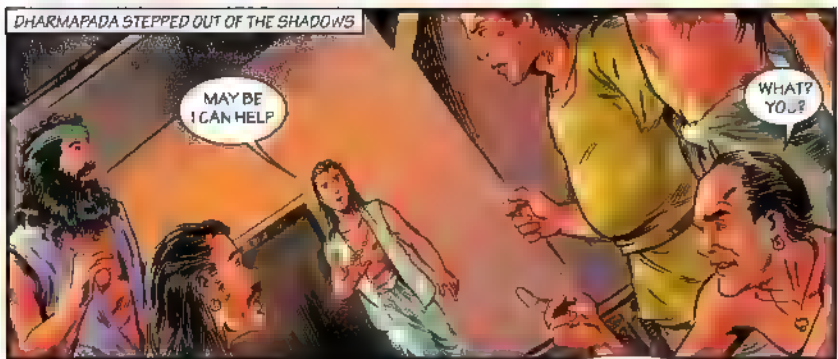
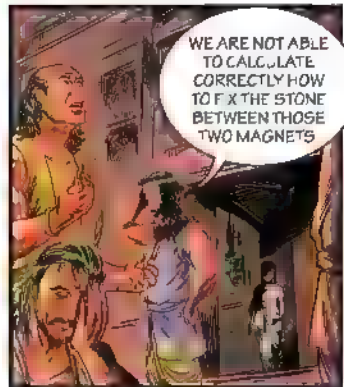
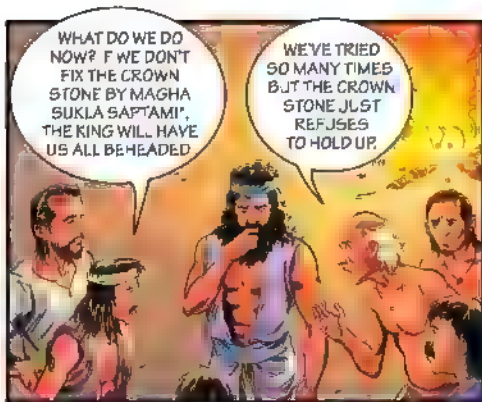


BUT
GRANDMOTHER
DOESN'T FIGHT
WITH MOTHER-
LIKE THAT

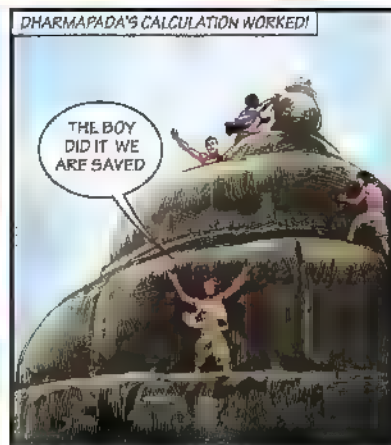
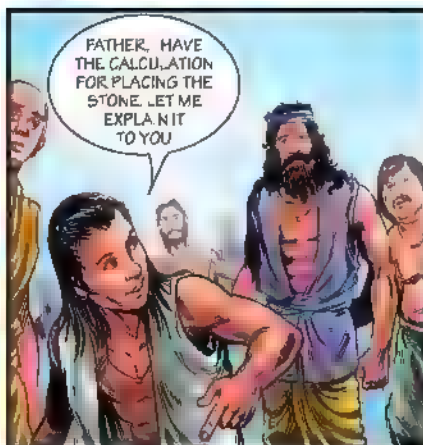
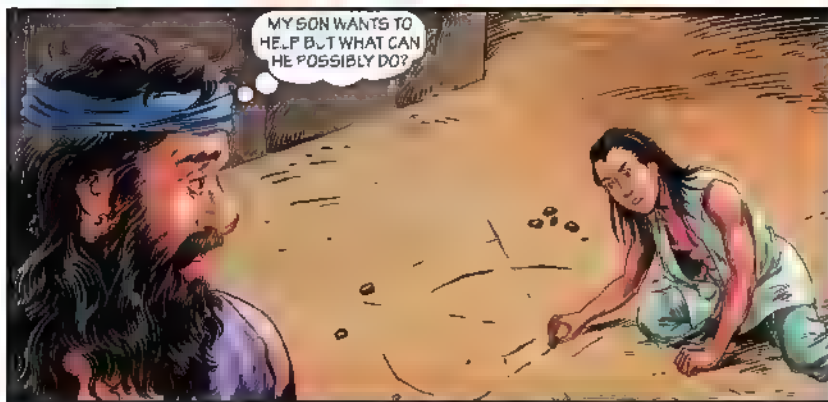


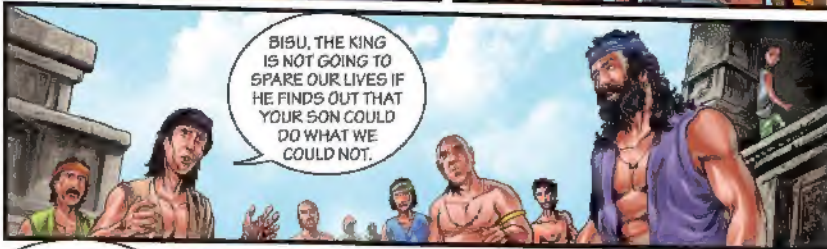
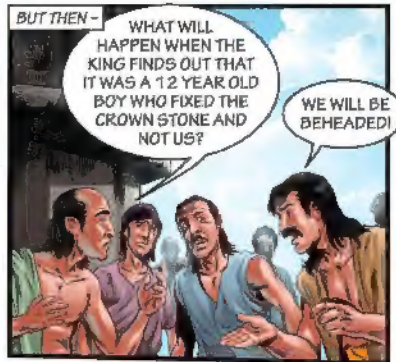
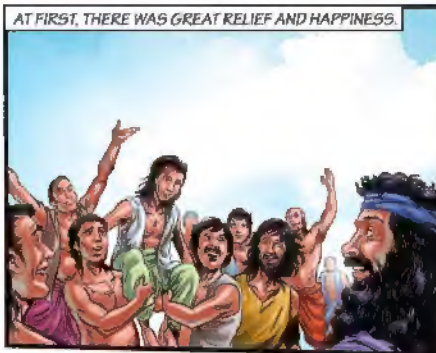
AND THAT'S AN
OLD MAN LEAVING
HIS HOUSE ON
A PILGRIMAGE
PERHAPS?



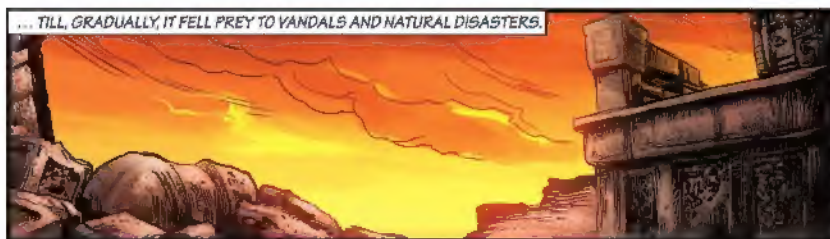


* A DAY DEDICATED TO THE SUN GOD









EPICS & MYTHOLOGY

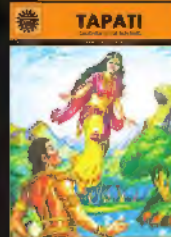
KONARK

As dawn breaks, Surya the Sun God, leaps over the horizon in his chariot, pulled by seven radiant horses. As he rises into the sky he spreads light and warmth all over the world.

The great Ganga king, Narasimha Rao, commissioned 1200 artisans to recreate this scene in stone.

The Konark Sun Temple is a place where the lines between fact, fiction and folklore have blurred over time. Amar Chitra Katha interweaves the history of the 13th century monument with some of the mythology associated with it.

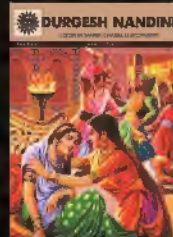
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"Amar Chitra Kathas are a glorious tribute to India's rich cultural heritage. These books have been an integral part of my children's early years, as they have been for many other families across India. Comics are a great way of reaching out to children, inculcating reading habits and driving their quest to learn more about our roots."

- NARAYAN MURTHY, CHIEF MENTOR, INFOSYS

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